Festival of France in India

3286. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Festival of France which was inaugurated in Bombay on the 3rd February, 89 would go on for a year as reported in the Indian Express of 4th February, 89;

(b) what amount had been spent for the festival of India in France and what is the amount India will spend on this festival of France; and

(c) what are the specific benefits in organising such big extravaganzas only in cities at the expense of rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) Festival of France inaugurated in February 1989 is scheduled to end in November, 1989.

(b) An amount of Rs. 3.89 crores was spent on Festival of India in France and it is estimated that an amount of Rs. 4.19 crores will be spent on festival of France in India

(c) The programmes forming part of the festivals from abroad normally require large theatres, exhibition halls and Seminar Venues and as such are presented where these facilities are available. However attempts are made to cover as much of India as possible within these constraints. In the case of the Soviet festival in India as many as 63 towns were covered

Stopping of U.G.C. grants to the Centre of Advanced Study in Applied Mathematics, Calcutta

3287. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that grants/subsidy given by the UGC to the Centre of Advanced Study in Applied Mathematics, Calcutta University has been stopped since 1975; and

(b) if so the reasons therefor and the details of experts recommending this stoppage of funds and whether such a team included any expert in Applied Mathematics?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) The Department of Applied Mathematics, Calcutta University was identified by the University Grants Commission as the first Centre of Advanced Study in Applied Mathematics in the year 1963-64. The Centre received support from the Commission for a period of 10 years. The progress of the Centre was assessed in 1974 by a Committee consisting of the following members:

(i) Prof. K. R. Ramanathan, T.I.F.R. Bombay.

(ii) Prof. B. Athreya, Deptt. of Applied Mathematics, IISc Bangalore.

(iii) Dr. D. Shankar Narayan, Additional Secretary, UGC.

The Centre was assessed as 'average' on the recommendations of the Assessment Committee and the Commission derecognised the Centre w.e.f. 1.4.74. However, on the basis of the performance of the Department of Applied Mathematics, Calcutta University, the Mathematics Panel of the U.G.C. again identified that Department for support under Special Assistance Programme in 1987. An expert Committee of the Commission visited the Department on 10.2.87 and on the basis of the